

REMARKS

This is in response to the Notice of Allowance and Examiner's Amendment mailed March 30, 2004. In the Examiner's Amendment, the drawings were objected to for failing to show the features of claims 12 and 13. With this Amendment, the drawings are amended by replacing Figure 4 with Figures 4A-4C. In addition, the specification is amended to incorporate new Figures 4A-4C. The amendments to the specification and drawings illustrate the bumper system comprising a fluid air bearing of claim 12 and the bumper system comprising a magnetic system of claim 13.

Figure 4A is identical to original Figure 4. New Figure 4B is original Figure 4 amended to illustrate the presence of the fluid air bearing 144 between the rotor and stator bumpers 66. In addition, new Figure 4C is original Figure 4 amended to illustrate that the bumpers 66 comprise magnetic bumpers 146, 148. The specification is likewise amended to include reference to Figures 4A-4C, and to add numbers 144 -148.

Both the fluid air bearing 144 and magnetic bumpers 146, 148 were described in the original specification. The specification has been amended merely to include reference numbers added to the drawings, and the drawings are amended to more specifically show the bumper systems described in the specification. The amendments do not constitute new matter nor do they change the scope of the claims. Rather, the amendments merely embody the correction of formal matter requested by the Examiner. No more than a cursory review of the record is necessary. As such, Applicant respectfully requests that this Amendment be entered and the application be allowed to issue.

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Application No.: 10/650,392

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-0982.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

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